

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/659,399
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

PATENT
FINAL

REMARKS

Claim 2 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 10. Claim 10 has been cancelled. Such amendment is equivalent to rewriting claim 10 in independent form since claim 10 depends directly on claim 2. Claim 10 is only objected to in the Action as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and is indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claim 2 and the claims that depend directly or indirectly thereon, claims 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 and 26, are now allowable.

In view of the current allowability of claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 and 26 and the indication in the Action that claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 21, 23 and 25 are allowed, the application is now in condition for allowance. A formal notice of allowability is respectfully solicited.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated February 8, 2005. If, however, minor issues remain that can be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/659,399
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

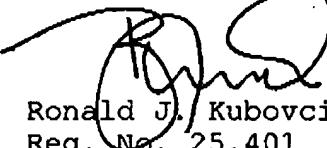
**PATENT
FINAL**

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK


Ronald J. Kubovcik
Reg. No. 25,401

Atty. Case No. IPE-023
The Farragut Building
Suite 710
900 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Tel: (202) 887-9023
Fax: (202) 887-9093
RJK/KTK/jbf